

Nominator Contact Information

Name: Self Nominated
Title:
Company:
Address:
Phone:
Fax:
E-mail:
Relationship to nominee:

Nominee Contact Information

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Nominee Communications/Public Relations Contact

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Why are you nominating this organization? (In 1000 words or less, please describe how this electric cooperative has demonstrated corporate leadership with wind power; any innovative marketing or customer education associated with wind power at this cooperative; how customers have benefited from the cooperatives involvement in wind power; and any creative solutions to barriers the cooperative faced in securing wind power. Please include information regarding the year the cooperative started considering wind power and the percentage of contribution wind provides to its total power supply):

Sunflower Electric Power Corporation (Sunflower) is a generation and transmission cooperative headquartered in Hays, Kansas. Six rural electric distribution cooperatives own the not-for-profit corporation and its sister company, Mid-Kansas Electric Company LLC, (Mid-Kansas). The six member-owners serve approximately 400,000 people in central and western Kansas.

Recognizing the many benefits of wind power to their members, Sunflower and Mid-Kansas' Board of Directors (Boards) have taken an aggressive position in acquiring wind energy. The acquisition of wind energy began in 2006 with the Gray County Wind Farm Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). Then in 2008, the Boards implemented a Renewable Energy Policy that includes public support of renewable generation, primarily in the form of wind energy projects. In this policy, the Boards also set a goal of 25 percent renewable energy for Sunflower and Mid-Kansas.

Kansas continues to experience tremendous wind power activity. According to the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA), Kansas is ranked in the top 10 in the nation for nameplate capacity of wind power installations.

Sunflower and Mid-Kansas are proud to assist in the boom of wind power activity in more than one facet. Of the numerous wind projects currently under construction in Kansas, 10 projects with a total nameplate capacity of 973.5 MW are directly connected to Sunflower and Mid-Kansas' transmission lines. In addition to that, a total capacity of 1,172 MW are interconnected "indirectly" to Sunflower and Mid-Kansas' transmission lines. These projects require Sunflower staff to manage the process for interconnection to the bulk electric system. Sunflower and Mid-Kansas must also construct the

necessary infrastructure, transmission lines, substations, communication facilities, etc. to accommodate the wind generation developments. Needless to say, staff members have been and will continue to be very busy assisting wind development in 2015, including development of Iron Horse and Wildcat wind farms that will total 600 MW. Iron Horse and Wildcat are expected to be in-service by the end of 2016.

The most recent Mid-Kansas wind PPA was executed in September of 2011, for 104 MW of wind power from the Shooting Star Wind Project, which was placed in service in 2012. With the addition of this project, the Sunflower and Mid-Kansas system will enjoy 229 MW of wind power from PPAs.

Sunflower and Mid-Kansas have surpassed the 10 percent Renewable Energy Standards Act set forth in 2011, along with the Boards' 25 percent renewable energy goal. It is expected that the nameplate capacity of wind projects under contract to Sunflower and Mid-Kansas will exceed the member retail peak by more than 30 percent.

If the cooperative you are nominating has external requirements to develop, purchase, or otherwise promote renewable energy to (a) meet renewable energy portfolio standards, (b) satisfy fines or penalties, and/or (c) settle lawsuits or other litigation, please so indicate in this form.

If you are nominating the cooperative but are not an employee of the organization, please confirm whether or not the cooperative has reviewed and approved all the information on this form.

Optional additional information (not counted against 1000 word limit):

A. Location of wind generation and year installed:

Shooting Star Wind Project, Power Purchase Agreement dated September 7, 2011. Located in Kiowa County, Kansas.

Smoky Hills Wind Farm 1, Power Purchase Agreement dated February 23, 2007. Located in Lincoln and Ellsworth Counties, Kansas.

Smoky Hills Wind Farm 2, Power Purchase Agreement dated November 1, 2007. Located in Lincoln and Ellsworth Counties, Kansas.

Gray County Wind Farm, Power Purchase Agreement dated August 15, 2006. Located in Gray County Kansas.

B. Project budget, including a short description of any innovative financing methods:

All wind contracts are for power purchase agreements. Financing is not applicable.

C. Challenges of the development or purchasing process—this could include market interruptions, internal hurdles and/or buying a new technology:

Since Sunflower and Mid-Kansas had more than enough wind energy to meet the Kansas RESA and Board objectives in 2011, we are not actively pursuing additional wind energy. However, over the course of late 2010 and early 2011, market prices for wind energy plummeted. By the spring of 2011, we determined that the cost of energy associated with a new 20 year wind PPA would apply downward pressure on member rates. Acquiring a new wind PPA not only made sense for renewable compliance and the environment, but it also made sense solely from an economic perspective for our members. Limited only by operational constraints, we maximized our operational threshold with the new Shooting Star PPA.

D. Any other interesting information about the project or wind power purchase: